To: Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]

Deegan, Dave[Deegan.Dave@epa.gov]; Gutro, Doug[Gutro.Doug@epa.gov]; Murphy, Cc:

Jim[Murphy.Jim@epa.gov] Elliott, Rodney From:

Wed 8/12/2015 2:30:15 PM Sent:

Subject: Colorado Mine Spill-NEWSCLIPS, Wednesday, August 12th, 2015 r1newsclips

Report Overview:

Total Clips (76)

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Brownfields / Superfund / Other Cleanups (53)

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Energy Issues (2)

Toxics (1)

Wastes and Hazardous Wastes (1)

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News Text: ...Colorado mine spill (all times local): 11:08 p.m. The head of the U.S.

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News Text: AP Photo/Jon Austria DENVER (AP) -- The U.S. Environmental Protection

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News Text: Check out five opinions trending online, from EPA's yellow river to Janet Yellen's

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Outlet Full Name: News-Times Online

News Text: ...says residents on the reservation near the Four Corners area who depend on

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News Headline: Colorado mine spill threatens water supplies |

Outlet Full Name: Telegram & Gazette Online

News Text: ...The 3 million gallons of mine waste included high concentrations of arsenic,

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News Headline: Toxic mines taint the West's waterways |

Outlet Full Name: USA Today

News Text: The mining spill that temporarily turned the Animas River bright orange exposed a dirty secret of the West: Tens of thousands of old mines may be leaching toxic waste into the nation's waterways.

Concrete Creek, the stream running through Silverton that bore the brunt of the Gold King Mine blowout, was so acidic even before last week's spill that fish couldn't live in it. An EPA assessment this spring called the water "highly toxic to fish."

"This is not just an isolated problem. There are mines like this all over the West," said Roger Flynn, an adjunct professor at the University of Colorado Law School in Boulder. "If there's a silver lining, it's that people are starting to say, 'wait a minute..."

Colorado Gov. John Hickenlooper, a former geologist, speaking Tuesday, called on state and

federal governments to aggressively tackle the "legacy of pollution" left by mining. Hickenlooper on Monday declared the Animas spill a disaster area, freeing up \$500,000 in emergency state funding.

That's welcome news to Flynn, who directs the Western Mining Action Project, an environmental advocacy group that uses the court system to force miners to clean up their sites, and the federal government to enforce the Clean Water Act.

Many mines across the West were dug in the 1800s or early 1900s, a time when the nation's leaders encouraged rapid Western settlement through mining and logging. In many cases, mining companies simply abandoned "played out" mines, leaving them to leach contaminants in the water. Many Colorado rocks contain naturally occurring sulfur, which can react with rainwater to make sulfuric acid, which then leaches even more chemicals out of the rock.

To meet modern environmental regulations, many mines now must build on-site water treatment plants that can cost \$1million a year to operate, Flynn said.

Flynn said EPA officials have appropriately apologized for causing the Gold King spill, but have not addressed what he sees as the real problem: The mine's owner allowed millions of gallons of highly contaminated water to accumulate inside. EPA officials say they were testing for contamination when they accidentally unleashed the spill that polluted the water for hundreds of miles downstream.

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News Headline: Businesses at Lake Powell unaffected by spill -- for now |

Outlet Full Name: USA Today Online

News Text: 5:34 p.m. EDT August 11, 2015 Millions of gallons of mustard-colored

wastewater flowing down the Animas River in Colorado are heading...

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News Headline: EPA Chief Apologizes for Toxic Spill Affecting Rivers in Colorado, New

Mexico |

Outlet Full Name: Wall Street Journal Online

News Text: ... Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy WASHINGTON—U. S.

Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina...

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News Text: (Alexa Rogals/The Daily Times via AP). New Mexico Environment Department

District Manager Bob Italiano places bottles of water for testing on...

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Outlet Full Name: WFSB-TV Online

News Text: ...left, expresses frustration about the water testing with Janine Kraemer, a

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News Headline: EPA targeted for lawsuits in wake of toxic spill in river in Colorado |

Outlet Full Name: USA Today Online

News Text: ... of the contamination of the Animas River in Colorado could take the

Environmental Protection Agency to court to seek damages,...

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News Headline: E.P.A. Treating Toxic Water From Abandoned Colorado Mine After Accident

Outlet Full Name: New York Times Online

News Text: ...treating the toxic water as it pours out, said David Ostrander, a regional

emergency response director for the E.P.A. Colorado, New...

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News Headline: E.P.A. Treating Toxic Water From Abandoned Colorado Mine After Accident

Outlet Full Name: New York Times, The

News Text: DENVER -- Nearly a week after the Environmental Protection Agency accidentally breached a store of chemical-laced water from an abandoned mine in southwest Colorado, toxic water continues to spill at a rate of 500 to 700 gallons a minute, E.P.A. officials said Tuesday.

The agency is treating the toxic water as it pours out, said David Ostrander, a regional emergency response director for the E.P.A.

Colorado, New Mexico and the Navajo Nation have declared states of emergency. And the Colorado governor, John W. Hickenlooper, visited the contaminated river on Tuesday, speaking to residents in Durango who have been barred from using the Animas River because of the spill.

"We take this is as a catalyst," Mr. Hickenlooper said, adding that there are thousands of abandoned mines in the West. "I think our goal here is to really focus on what we can do to make sure that those mines where we know we have a serious problem -- how can we accelerate the remediation and make sure that something like this never happens again?"

Gina McCarthy, the administrator of the E.P.A., apologized for the accident at an energy forum in Washington. "I am absolutely, deeply sorry that this ever happened," Ms. McCarthy said, according to The Associated Press.

On Aug. 5, a team contracted by the E.P.A. was investigating the Gold King Mine, an abandoned gold mine near Silverton, Colo., that had been leaking toxic water at varied rates for years. The goal was to figure out how to stop that leak. Instead, while using a backhoe, workers knocked away debris and unleashed an onslaught of orange-yellow water.

The toxic plume flowed into the Animas River and traveled south. On Tuesday, officials estimated it had reached Kirtland, N.M., more than 100 miles from the mine.

The spill caused levels of arsenic, lead and other metals to spike in the Animas River. Mr. Ostrander said Tuesday that in Durango, a city about 50 miles south of the mine, the river's toxicity had returned to "pretty much a pre-incident level."

Officials have closed the Animas and one of its tributaries, the San Juan River, for drinking, irrigation, fishing, rafting and other activities at least through Monday, affecting communities in southwest Colorado, northern New Mexico and the Navajo Nation.

At least seven public water systems that typically take water from these rivers and pump it into their water sources have stopped doing so. On the Navajo Nation, officials are hauling water to Montezuma Creek, Utah, and Halchita, Utah, two communities of a few hundred people that typically receive water from the San Juan, said Deenise Becenti, a spokeswoman for the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority.

Households near the rivers that use wells are also at risk of contamination, officials have said. The E.P.A. continues to test water along the plume's path. The agency has not said whether the spill presents a health risk to humans and animals.

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News Headline: AP News in Brief at 5:58 a.m. EDT |

Outlet Full Name: Associated Press (AP)

News Text: Texas police chief hopes firing of officer who killed football player will help 'healing'

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) - An unarmed college football player tried to smash through a locked glass door in a North Texas car dealership showroom to escape an officer in training but then began advancing toward the officer before he was fatally shot, according to the Arlington police chief.

Called to the scene of a suspected burglary last week, Arlington officer Brad Miller pursued 19year-old Christian Taylor into the showroom without telling his supervising officer, Police Chief Will Johnson said as he described their encounter for the first time Tuesday. Before police announced Tuesday that Miller had been fired, they had declined to describe the 49-year-old officer's interactions with Taylor in detail.

Inside the showroom, Miller ordered Taylor to get to the ground, Johnson said. Instead, Taylor cursed at the officer and advanced toward him. When Taylor was about 10 feet away, the officer fired, according to Johnson.

Taylor continued moving, so Miller's training officer, Cpl. Dale Wiggins, shot Taylor with a Taser.

Miller then fired three more times. At least two bullets struck Taylor, killing him, according to the chief, who said the interaction early Friday morning lasted only seconds. Taylor and Miller never made physical contact, he said.

Clinton giving up private server as new questions arise over highly classified information

WASHINGTON (AP) - Hillary Rodham Clinton's presidential campaign casts her decision to turn over her personal email server to the Justice Department as cooperating with investigators. Her Republican critics suggest that the move and new revelations about classified information points to her malfeasance as secretary of state.

Two emails that traversed Clinton's personal system were subsequently given one of the government's highest classification ratings, a Republican lawmaker said.

Federal investigators have begun looking into the security of Clintons' email setup amid concerns from the inspector general for the intelligence community that classified information may have passed through the system. There is no evidence she used encryption to prevent prying eyes from accessing the emails or her personal server.

"It's about time," House Speaker John Boehner said in a statement after the front-runner for the Democratic nomination announced that she was directing that the server be relinquished. "Secretary Clinton's previous statements that she possessed no classified information were patently untrue. Her mishandling of classified information must be fully investigated."

Republican National Committee Chairman Reince Priebus said: "All this means is that Hillary Clinton, in the face of FBI scrutiny, has decided she has run out of options. She knows she did something wrong and has run out of ways to cover it up."

10 Things to Know for Today

Your daily look at late-breaking news, upcoming events and the stories that will be talked about today:

1. COP WHO SHOT COLLEGE FOOTBALL PLAYER FIRED FROM FORCE

Whether or not officer Brad Miller will face criminal charges for killing 19-year-old Christian Taylor will be up to a grand jury.

AP Exclusive: US won't invite Cuban dissidents to historic flag-raising at embassy in Havana

WASHINGTON (AP) - The Obama administration doesn't plan to invite Cuban dissidents to Secretary of State John Kerry's historic flag-raising at the U.S. Embassy in Havana on Friday, vividly illustrating how U.S. policy is shifting focus from the island's opposition to its single-party government. Instead, Kerry intends to meet more quietly with prominent activists later in the day, officials said.

The Cuban opposition has occupied the center of U.S. policy toward the island since the nations cut diplomatic relations in 1961. The Cuban government labels its domestic opponents as traitorous U.S. mercenaries. As the two countries have moved to restore relations, Cuba has almost entirely stopped meeting with American politicians who visit dissidents during trips to Havana.

That presented a quandary for U.S. officials organizing the ceremony to mark the reopening of the embassy on Havana's historic waterfront. Inviting dissidents would risk a boycott by Cuban officials including those who negotiated with the U.S. after Presidents Barack Obama and Raul Castro declared detente on Dec. 17. Excluding dissidents would certainly provoke fierce criticism from opponents of Obama's new policy, including Cuban-American Republican presidential candidate Marco Rubio.

Officials familiar with the plans for Kerry's visit, the first by a sitting U.S. secretary of state to Cuba since World War II, told The Associated Press that a compromise was in the works. The dissidents won't be invited to the embassy event but a small group will meet with Kerry at the U.S. chief of mission's home in the afternoon, where a lower-key, flag-raising ceremony is scheduled.

Their presence at the embassy would have risked setting back the new spirit of cooperation the U.S. hopes to engender, according to the officials, who weren't authorized to speak publicly about internal planning and demanded anonymity. But not meeting them at all, they said, would send an equally bad signal.

After 2 nights of tension, a peaceful protest with no arrests in Ferguson

FERGUSON, Mo. (AP) - Police outnumbered protesters along West Florissant Avenue in Ferguson on Tuesday night, perhaps signaling the demonstrations around the anniversary of Michael Brown's death are starting to fade.

The crowd of around 100 demonstrators was mostly calm and peaceful. Occasionally a few people would march or start a chant, but they spent most of several hours milling around and chatting with one another.

Larry Miller, 58, organizer of the protest group Ferguson Freedom Fighters, said it was clear the latest round of demonstrations were dying down. He wasn't convinced much was accomplished.

"We already know what needs to be happening is not happening," Miller said. "We're still bothered over the killing of Mike Brown because we still need police reform, criminal justice system reform."

A tense moment Tuesday came when a couple dozen people briefly blocked traffic. But several officers in riot gear, along with St. Louis County Police Chief Jon Belmar, quickly moved to break it up.

Shelling, government airstrikes around Syria's capital ahead of Iran foreign minister's visit

BEIRUT (AP) - Heavy rebel shelling and government airstrikes hit around Syria's capital Wednesday, killing at least 16 people and wounding scores more just hours before the arrival of Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammed Javad Zarif, activists and state media said.

Zarif is scheduled to arrive Wednesday afternoon in Damascus, likely to discuss a four-point peace plan proposal Iran wants to offer to the United Nations to end Syria's grinding civil war. But discussions alone of that plan, which reportedly includes a cease-fire and a "national unity government," likely won't pause a conflict that's killed more than 250,000 people since March 2011.

The rebel shelling began around morning rush hour in Damascus, with more than 50 shells striking the capital, including in the upper-class neighborhoods of Abu Rummaneh, Baramkeh and Qasaa, the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said.

The Observatory said the shelling killed one woman and wounded at least 20 people. Syrian state television quoted the Interior Ministry as saying that the shelling killed four people and wounded 58. It blamed "terrorists" for the shelling, as state media always refers those fighting against embattled Syrian President Bashar Assad's rule.

"We hid for two hours in the bathroom," said a woman by telephone from Qasaa, who spoke on condition of anonymity for fear of reprisals. "My children woke up terrified. Our windows were shattered and so was my car's windshield."

A look at why Germany is paragon of postwar reconciliation, while Japan is mired in animosity

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) - Both nations brutalized continents. Both slaughtered and abused tens of millions of people. But while Germany is held up as a paragon of post-World War II reconciliation, Japan is mired in animosity with its neighbors seven decades later.

In many ways, the stunning economic and political resurrections of both countries since the war ended 70 years ago Sunday have been a windfall for their respective regions. Both have largely been generous in aid, both, for the most part, sterling examples of liberal democracies.

But talk to Europeans and Northeast Asians about Germany and Japan and you'll often find stark differences in perception.

Some of this is linked to the Soviet threat during the Cold War, which forced Europe to work closely with powerful West Germany. No such unifying force emerged in ultracompetitive Northeast Asia.

A kneeling former German chancellor is a European icon of reconciliation, but China and the two Koreas see Japan as having continually gotten a free pass.

Crops, livestock in jeopardy as Navajo Nation says it feels brunt of Colorado mine spill

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) - Russell Begaye stared into a hole in the side of a Colorado mountain, watching as yellow water contaminated with heavy metals poured out and raced down a slope toward a creek that feeds rivers critical to survival on the nation's largest Native American reservation and in other parts of the Southwest.

At the Gold King Mine, Begaye, president of the Navajo Nation, couldn't help but see the concerned faces of his people - the farmers who no longer had water for corn crops and the ranchers who had to scramble to get their cattle, sheep and goats away from the polluted San Juan River.

"We were told that the water was clearing up and getting back to normal," he said. "This is what EPA was telling us. We wanted to go up there as close as we could to the source. We wanted our people to see the water is still yellow."

Begaye and a small contingent of Navajo officials worked their way unannounced past barriers and up the mountain over the weekend to get a closer look at the mine blowout that federal officials said sent more than 3 million gallons of water laden with lead, arsenic and other metals down the Animas River and into the San Juan River.

The 100-mile plume has since traveled through parts of Colorado, New Mexico and Utah on the way to Lake Powell, a key source of water for the Southwest.

China's currency falls for second day after devaluation jolts global markets

BEIJING (AP) - China's currency fell further Wednesday following a surprise change in its exchange rate mechanism that rattled global markets and threatens to fan trade tensions with the United States and Europe.

The central bank said the yuan's 1.9 percent devaluation Tuesday against the U.S. dollar, which was its biggest one-day fall in a decade, was due to changes aimed at making the tightly controlled currency more market-oriented. That raised the prospect of still more declines, which would help struggling Chinese exporters at the expense of foreign competitors and might shore up flagging economic growth.

On Wednesday, the yuan dropped another 1.6 percent. In theory, it could drop 2 percent every day given it can trade 2 percent around a rate that is set based on the previous day's closing value.

Until now, China has set the yuan's value each day based on a basket of currencies that is believed to be dominated by the U.S. dollar. That meant the yuan rose as the dollar jumped over the past year, hurting its exporters and raising the threat of politically dangerous job losses. Exports in July plummeted by an unexpectedly steep 8.3 percent from a year earlier.

The People's Bank of China promised Tuesday to keep the exchange rate "basically stable," but Wednesday's decline prompted suggestions the yuan is likely to fall further.

Federal court judge to host Tom Brady and Roger Goodell in bid to end 'Deflategate'

NEW YORK (AP) - New England quarterback Tom Brady and NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell are set to explain to a judge why a controversy over underinflated footballs at last season's AFC conference championship game is spilling into a new season.

U.S. District Judge Richard M. Berman ordered the men to appear before him Wednesday at an initial hearing in Manhattan after the NFL sued the players union two weeks ago.

The league asked the judge to declare that it followed its players' contract properly when it

punished Brady after Goodell concluded he "knew about, approved of, consented to, and provided inducements and rewards" to support a scheme in which a Patriots' employee deflated balls on game day. Brady insists he knew nothing about it.

On Tuesday, Berman asked Goodell and Brady, along with lawyers, to appear before him privately a half hour before a public court session. He said he wants to learn the status of negotiations. He also asked them to continue negotiating prior to the hearing. Brady was not at Patriots practice.

At a news conference in Illinois, Goodell said the league plans to cooperate fully with Berman.

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News Headline: EPA chief to tour mine, source of toxic spill |

Outlet Full Name: USA Today Online

News Text: ...western waterways will face the public at the source of the disaster. U.S.

Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina...

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News Headline: Navajo Nation says it feels brunt of Colorado mine leak |

Outlet Full Name: Associated Press (AP)

News Text: ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) - Russell Begaye stared into a hole in the side of a Colorado mountain, watching as yellow water contaminated with heavy metals poured out and raced down a slope toward a creek that feeds rivers critical to survival on the nation's largest Native American reservation and in other parts of the Southwest.

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"We were told that the water was clearing up and getting back to normal," he said. "This is what EPA was telling us. We wanted to go up there as close as we could to the source. We wanted our people to see the water is still yellow."

Begaye and a small contingent of Navajo officials worked their way unannounced past barriers and up the mountain over the weekend to get a closer look at the mine blowout that federal officials said sent more than 3 million gallons of water laden with lead, arsenic and other metals down the Animas River and into the San Juan River.

The 100-mile plume has since traveled through parts of Colorado, New Mexico and Utah on the way to Lake Powell, a key source of water for the Southwest.

All along the way, signs are posted warning people to stay out of the water. Farmers have stopped irrigating and communities have closed water intake systems. Bottled water on the Navajo Nation is becoming scarce.

Begaye said his tribe is bearing the brunt of the massive spill that was accidentally unleashed by EPA workers inspecting the long-idled Gold King mine near Silverton, Colorado, on Aug. 5. Two-thirds of the San Juan River crosses Navajo land before reaching Lake Powell.

"This is a huge issue," Begaye said. "This river, the San Juan, is our lifeline, not only in a

spiritual sense but also it's an economic base that sustains the people that live along the river.

"When EPA is saying to me it's going to take decades to clean this up, that is how long uncertainty will exist as we drink the water, as we farm the land, as we put our livestock out there near the river," he said. "That is just, to me, a disaster of a huge proportion."

Frustration is mounting throughout the Four Corners region among officials and residents who say the EPA has moved too slowly and hasn't been forthcoming about the dangers of the spill. The Navajo Nation feels even more slighted given its status as a federally recognized tribe and sovereign nation.

Begaye said he has yet to receive a call from President Barack Obama. "It seems like the Obama administration just closed their doors and disappeared," he said.

On Wednesday, EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy planned to tour sites in New Mexico and Colorado affected by the spill. She called it a tragic and unfortunate incident, saying the EPA was taking responsibility to ensure the mess was cleaned up.

"I am absolutely, deeply sorry that this ever happened," she said Tuesday in Washington.

The EPA has said the current flows are too fast for the contaminants to pose an immediate health threat, and that the heavy metals will likely be diluted over time so they don't pose a longer-term threat, either.

Tests show some of the metals have settled to the bottom of the rivers and would dissolve only if conditions became acidic, which experts say isn't likely.

Fish testing was going on Tuesday in the Animas River near Durango, Colorado, with biologists working to determine the leak's impact on fish.

"We didn't have a big fish kill in the river," said Jim White, an aquatic biologist with Colorado Parks and Wildlife. "The one thing we don't know is sort of long term impacts to the aquatic community out here in general."

Colorado Gov. John Hickenlooper visited a contaminated stretch of the Animas and said he hopes a "silver lining" to the disaster will be a more aggressive state and federal effort to deal with mining's "legacy of pollution" across the West.

On the Navajo Nation, some 30,000 acres of crops are in danger without irrigation. Farmers also worry about contaminating their irrigation ditches once the gates are reopened, and ranchers are looking for assurances that livestock won't be exposed to contaminants each time they wade into the river and kick up sediment while getting a drink.

Navajo farmers are in the middle of alfalfa season and without rain, tribal officials say they will be in trouble. They have been flooding the airwaves and social media with Navajo-language public service announcements to keep people updated.

Knickmeyer reported from San Francisco. AP writers Lindsay Whitehurst in Salt Lake City; Ivan Moreno and Thomas Peipert in Denver; P. Solomon Banda in Durango, Colorado; and Brian Skoloff in Montezuma Creek, Utah, contributed to this story.

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News Headline: Colorado toxic spill |

Outlet Full Name: USA Today Online

News Text: EPA spills toxic waste water in Colorado, effects on Animas River to last two

years | 01:47 The Animas River is turning orange, and...

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News Headline: Toxic mines taint the West's waterways

Outlet Full Name: USA Today Online

News Text: ...so acidic even before last week's spill that fish couldn't live in it. An EPA

assessment this spring called the water "highly toxic to...

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News Headline: Experts: Toxic spill will not affect Arizona water |

Outlet Full Name: WFSB-TV Online

News Text: 08/10/2015 Polluted wastewater has been flowing down the Animas River,

passing Durango, CO and Farmington, NM. (Source: KPHO/KTVK)...

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News Headline: EPA chief: Colorado mine spill 'pains me' |

Outlet Full Name: Boston.com

News Text: August 11, 2015 at 15:50 PM EDT EPA chief: Colorado mine spill 'pains me' The

head of the U.S. Environmental Protection...

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News Headline: EPA chief apologizes for huge Colorado mine spill.

http://t.co/MzmhHcRZch |

Outlet Full Name: Twitter

News Text: EPA chief apologizes for huge Colorado mine spill.

http://t.co/MzmhHcRZch

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News Headline: 10 Things to Know for Today |

Outlet Full Name: Associated Press Online

News Text: ... They are concerned about long-term threats to the water supply even though

EPA officials say there is no leading edge of contamination...

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News Headline: EPA chief: Colorado mine spill 'pains me' |

Outlet Full Name: Sun Online

News Text: Updated: 08/11/2015 04:24:03 PM EDT	
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News Headline: Toxic sludge settling at the bottom of Colorado river	
Outlet Full Name: USA Today Online News Text: Colorado's governor said he is outraged after an EPA worker caused 3 million gallons of mine waste to spill into the Animas River in Durango	
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News Headline: EPA Chief Responds to Colo. River Spill Anger	
Outlet Full Name: USA Today Online News Text: The head of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency says it "pains me to no end" to see the 3 million gallons of mine waste that	

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